CLASSIFICATION - RESTRICTED CENTRAL SECURITY ENTERNATION

INFORMATION FROM FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT CD NO.

COUNTRY **SUBJECT**

Albania; Bulgaria; Hungary; Rumania; Poland;

Czechoslovakia

Economic - Agriculture, forestry

DATE OF

INFORMATION 1952

HOW

PUBLISHED Semiweekly newspaper DATE DIST. 99 Nov 1952

WHERE

PUBLISHED Berlin

DATE

10 May 1952

NO. OF PAGES 2

PUBLISHED LANGUAGE

German

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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SOURCE

Aussenhandels Nachrichten.

FORESTATION IN THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACIES

Following the pattern set by the USSR, the People's Democracies have developed plans to offset the destruction and depletion of forests caused by World War II.

In March 1951, the Albanian Council of Ministers pessed a resolution on forestation under the Five-Year Plan, according to which an area of 27,800 hectares will be newly planted. Up to now, over 6,000 hectares have been forested. Pines, eucalyptus, and poplars are being planted along the Albanian coast.

The Council of Ministers in Bulgaria adopted a resolution on 31 October 1951 which provides for the forestation of one million hectares, or 10 percent of the country's total area, between 1951 and 1963. The state has undertaken to plant 10 protective shelter belts, approximately 800 kilometers in total length, by the end of 1954. The most important of these belts are located in the area between the Danube and the Black Sea.

In Hungary, forestation is planned for an area of 570,000 hold (one hold equals 0.57 hectares) by the end of the present Five-Year Plan. To prevent rloods, the state forestry managements are to plant 200 million saplings of fast-growing trees on river banks during 1952.

In Poland, forests were planted on an area of 348,000 hectares un Three-Year Economic Plan (1947 - 1949). Despite unfavorable weather conditions, 135,000 hectares were forested in 1951, compared with prewar plantings of not more than 21,000 hectares per year.

Under the Rumanian Five-Year Plan, an area of 390,000 hectares is to be planted. Forestation in Rumania is important not only for the restoration of forests and protective shelter belts, but also because it plays a large part in the construction of hydroelectric power plants, as provided by the Ten-Year Plan. In the reservoir zones of northern Dobrudzha, where large-scale construction projects are in progress, 100,000 hectares will be forested in the next 5 years.

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The Five-Year Plan of Czechoslovakia (1949 - 1953) calls for a 231,000-hectare increase in the forested area. Protective shelter belts are being planted on an area of 76,000 hectares to conserve the soil and improve the climate.

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